

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

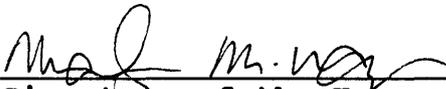
### SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

**NRIS Reference Number:** 91001792      **Date Listed:** 12/20/91

Frentz, George, House	Jackson	MISSISSIPPI
<b>Property Name</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>State</b>

Historic Resources of Pascagoula, MS  
**Multiple Name**

-----  
This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

for   
**Signature of the Keeper**

1/10/92  
**Date of Action**

=====  
**Amended Items in Nomination:**

Section No. 8

This nomination was amended to add Criterion C (architecture), as indicated in the text.

This change was confirmed by phone with the Mississippi SHPO (1/9/92).

**DISTRIBUTION:**  
National Register property file  
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Frentz, George House  
other names/site number Franke, James H. House

### 2. Location

street & number 503 Morgan N/A not for publication  
city, town Pascagoula N/A vicinity  
state Mississippi code MS county Jackson code 59 zip code 39567

### 3. Classification

<b>Ownership of Property</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>	<b>Number of Resources within Property</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u> objects
			<u>1</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:  
Historic Resources of Pascagoula, MS

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Kenneth H. P. Pool OCT. 24, 1991  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Carol Shull 12-20-91  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Weatherboard

roof Asphalt

other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The George Frentz house sits near the front of an irregularly-shaped, roughly square lot, facing south to Morgan Street. Cedar Street runs along the east side of the lot. The frame house sits about two and a half feet above the almost level site. Shrubs line the front walk, and the house sits on the lawn, with no foundation planting. Pecan and oak trees are at the sides and back, and to the rear is a good-sized cedar tree. There is a chain-link fence along the front.

The one and a half story house is a gable-ended building, with ridge parallel to the street. The roof extends across an open five-bay, wood-floored porch running the length of the front elevation. A late two-story gabled portico construction was added at the front center. A back wing slightly smaller than the main mass, which has the appearance of a building reset from another site, extends north, its east wall in line with the east wall of the front, and its west slightly in from the main mass west wall. There is a wood deck at the southwest corner of the house.

The roof is asphalt tile, and the house is clad with weatherboards and corner boards. A water table and wood fascia at floor level run above the brick piers. There is a stuccoed chimney with ornamental projecting cap moldings to the north of the ridge near the west end of the roof, and another, symmetrically, to the east.

The boxed gable verges project about eight inches, and are thin on the front face. At the eaves, the boxing is larger and projects out from a rather deep soffit beam. This millwork at the sides of the porch returns on itself when it meets the house wall, and on the west side, symmetrically run millwork extends south from the northwest corner of the house as though an open porch had been intended across the back.

The front porch is supported by five rectangular, sectioned boxed posts along the front, with no bases, and with a correctly proportioned Greek Revival handrail with rectangular-shaped pickets, and with cap and necking moldings. The posts are chamfered between cap and necking, between necking and top rail, and between top and bottom rails of the handrail.

The later portico addition consists of a gabled dormer at the center. The front wall of the dormer is in line with the soffit beam of the lower porch, and has a door. Extending out about three feet to the front is an open porch with small boxed columns repeating the design of the porch below, except the chamfering goes only between necking and top rail of handrail. These porch posts support a boxed soffit beam which in turn supports the gable construction. The eave boxing at the gable roof continues horizontally across the front,

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the verge boxing resting on it. The gable front and front and side walls below are weatherboarded and the gable has a small, rectangular frame set with louvers. The porch floor of this addition has a fascia returning awkwardly into the eaves and soffit beam of the main porch, where it hits the soffit beam about the middle of its height. This porch is supported below at the corners by two boxed wood columns similar to those of the main porch, but spaced wider apart than the posts of the main porch. These posts rest on rectangular wood bases going to grade, between which the concrete porch steps rise. The design is essentially a Queen Anne type, "porched-dormer" translated into a classical form.

At the second floor front portico there is a pair of three-light and panel french doors, flanked by two three-light side lights with panels below. On the first floor, the entrance door frame has two large mullions with cap moldings. In the center, a four-panel single-acting door falls below a dentiled transom bar, above which is a four-light sash. Side lights have three lights above a panel below the transom bar, and one-light sash above. There is an Eastlake screen door sash in front of the entry door. Flanking the front door on each side are two six-over-six double-hung windows with blinds. There are two small six-over-six double-hung sash on the second floor of the west gable, and on the first floor there are two six-over-six windows, not lining up with those above, matching those on the front with louver blinds. The east end of the original house has identical sash identically located. On the east wall of the back addition are two six-over-six sash.

A modern wood deck has been added at the northeast corner of the house. It starts just south of the northeast corner of the original building, runs out west, turns north, and returns east to meet the northwest corner of the later addition. There is one contributing metal automobile garage which dates from the early twentieth century. It is rectangular in plan and has a gable roof. There is also a one story and a half wood garage on the back side of the property. It has the feel of a barn, with its large openings and board and batten exterior. The half-story has been converted to an apartment.

The George Frentz house is a center-hall cottage with flanking pairs of rooms, each with a fireplace in the center of the common wall with a simple mantel. An L-shaped stair that rises from the middle of the hall towards the front has a square newel and pickets. The hall widens beyond the stairway. All of the ground floor rooms except one have a wainscot. The typical trim is a flat board, sometimes with a square backband. The house is connected to the back building by a lattice-enclosed porch. The rear building originally had two rooms, one with matched and beaded boards, and one with beaded board walls with a chair rail.

In the north end of the lot is a non-contributing metal storage building with metal gable roof, and a contributing two-car garage with living quarters. The garage is board and batten with a steep gable roof. The south elevation has a six-over-six double-hung window and a flush wood door, and the west elevation has two garage doors and a six-over-six double-hung window in the gable.

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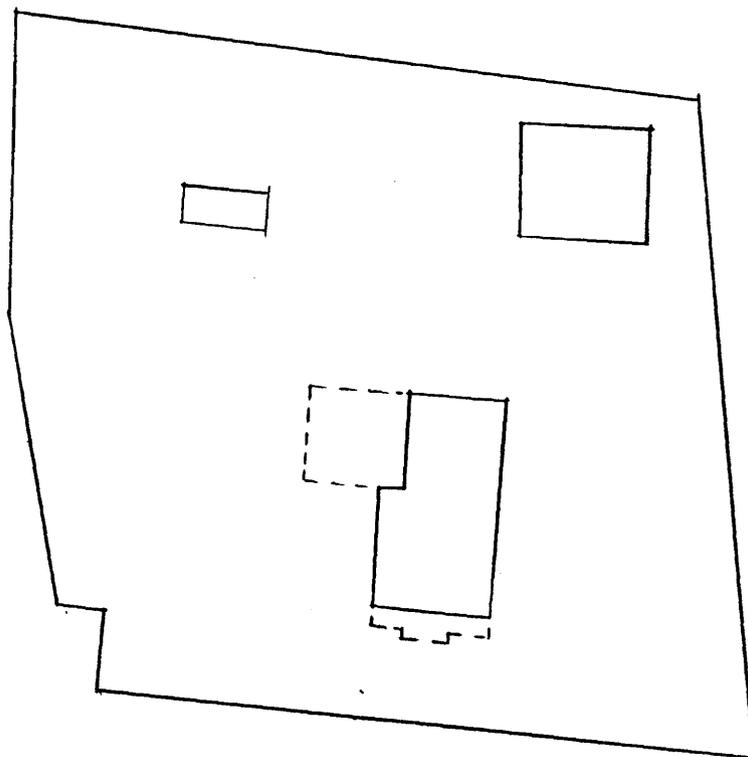
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503 MORGAN



**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Industry

Period of Significance

1878

1878-1919

Significant Dates

1878

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

George Frentz

Architect/Builder

unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

503 Morgan is both architecturally and historically significant within the residential context of Pascagoula. It is one of only six elements identified in Pascagoula as from the 1870s and, after the old Spanish Fort, is the oldest element in Krebsville. It retains the features which make it architecturally significant for its style, period and house type. Once the residence of George Frentz, owner of Frentz Shipyard Company, it is the sole surviving element associated with that locally prominent businessman, and as such is significant for its association with maritime history. The cottage reflects that industry's impact on the economy of the community, providing the means and necessity for such housing.

George Frentz came to Pascagoula in 1869 and in 1875 formed the partnership of Pol & Frentz with Miguel Pol, who had been in the shipbuilding business since 1860. The shipyard was a continuation of one of the oldest in the area--an 1896 account says that "the yard was capable of taking on its steamways vessels of very large tonnage and in this industry may be said to overtop Mobile." The Southern Manufacturer reported three years later that the yard was "equipped with steam ways that are capable of drawing up all steam vessels plying in these waters." After Pol's death, Frentz took over the company and changed the name to Frentz Shipbuilding Company. In 1918, Frentz sold the yard to Captain H.H. Colle, Jr. and A.F. Dantzler, at which time it became known as Gulf Shipbuilding Company.

In 1877 Frentz acquired the land for his house from Manuella Pol, and by 1879 was assessed for the building. Frentz, as owner of the shipyard, was a prominent local citizen, and belonged to the Scranton Volunteer Fire Co. No. 1. The Southern Manufacturer noted in 1899 that "in conjunction with his yards, he conducts a general merchandise store. Mr. Frentz is one of the most enthusiastic members of the Commercial Club and as an alderman made his influence for good felt." The Pascagoula Commercial Club was responsible for obtaining funding from the federal government for improvements to the port in 1896, and worked to improve the area's economy by attracting new enterprises and promoting the Pascagoula's port and natural resources. In 1918, the same year he sold his business, Frentz sold his house to Dierks-Blodgett Shipbuilding Company, another prominent local yard.

See continuation sheet

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Area shipyards prospered during the years of the first World War, and in 1918--a year when the industry's weekly payroll was \$80,000--Dierks-Blodgett had contracts for ten 9,000-ton steel vessels, the largest ships to be built in the South to date. The shipbuilding business soon collapsed, however, upon the signing of the Armistice.

After the war, Dierks-Blodgett sold the house to John R. O'Donohue. Subsequent owners have been Ollie E. Rolls, 1921; Berthal Brown, 1927; Charles M. Shepard III, 1970; Gary Smith, Jr., 1981; Hudson Shipbuilders, Inc., 1981; and James H. Franke, 1984.

Architecturally, the house is a Greek Revival Creole cottage. The gable roof, full-width front porch, and simple classic detailing make this building significant as a good local example of the style. The unusually large dormer with a gallery appears in the 1909 Sanborn insurance map, indicating its existence during the Frentz ownership. The central hallway reflects the American influence on the Creole cottage.

In summary, the cottage derives its significance from three criteria. First, its association with the local shipbuilding industry; second, its association with George Frentz; and third, as an example of an 1870s center-hall cottage.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

For Bibliography See Context Statement.

N/A  See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property Less than one acre.

UTM References

A     
 Zone Easting Northing

C

B     
 Zone Easting Northing

D

N/A  See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Lot 2, Dierks Blodgett Shipbuilding S/D 196' E/S Cedar by 206' N Margin Morgan Lane.

N/A  See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire city lot that has historically been associated with the property.

N/A  See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Robert J. Cangelosi, Jr., Architect  
 organization Koch and Wilson Architects, A Prof. Corp. date 3 June 1991  
 street & number 1100 Jackson Avenue telephone 504/581-7023  
 city or town New Orleans state LA zip code 70130